

NEW GROUNDWATER SOURCE TESTING REQUIREMENTS

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HOSPITALS • OFFICE OF PUBLIC HEALTH

This DWRLF Guidance Document must be placed into all specifications/contract documents involving the construction of new water wells.

The goal of these requirements is to protect the water system and the consumer by ensuring the minimum quality standards of all new groundwater sources are met. To accomplish this goal, required chemical sampling constituents must be analyzed from each new groundwater source by a State Certified Laboratory. Additionally, the results must be provided for review and approval to the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals (LDHH) – Office of Public Health (OPH) – Drinking Water Revolving Loan Fund (DWRLF) office **prior to the new groundwater source being utilized to provide water to consumers.**

Any plans and specifications which include a new water well source shall be approved with the understanding that the quality of water from all finished wells must comply with the National Primary Drinking Water Regulations and should comply with the National Secondary Drinking Water Regulations as promulgated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). Upon receipt of plans and specifications that include a proposed new water well(s), DWRLF will inquire with DHH Engineering Services to conduct an analysis of the water system's existing wells' chemical sample results history. If there are any concerns raised based on this analysis (*i.e.* system is on quarterly arsenic monitoring due to existing arsenic issues in the aquifer), then DWRLF may require a 'test well' be dug for NPDWR water sample collection and analysis before construction of the new well begins. This requirement will be considered by DWRLF and DHH on a case-by-case basis in an effort to prevent the construction of a well that will not be able to be utilized due a system's inability to provide contaminant treatment if required. If a system can provide enough evidence that, should additional treatment be required based on the completed new wells' NPDWR sample results, funds are available to immediately install such treatment, then a 'test well' may not be required and sampling of the finished well would be allowed at the system's discretion.

Prior approval of plans and specifications shall not preclude the necessity of appropriate additional treatment should the new groundwater source not comply with these standards. Should any additional treatment be necessary, plans and specifications must be revised to include the appropriate treatment and submitted to our office for review and approval prior to beginning construction.

A list of the required chemical sampling constituents should be attached to this guidance document or may be requested from our office. These constituents **MUST** be analyzed by a STATE-CERTIFIED INDEPENDENT LABORATORY and the results submitted to our office for review and approval *before* the new groundwater source may be put into service. A regularly updated list of LDHH-OPH State-Certified Laboratories can be found at:

<http://www.dhh.louisiana.gov/offices/page.asp?id=250&detail=8332>

NEW WATER WELL TESTING REQUIREMENTS

Prior to the finished well being placed online to serve customers, the LDHH-OPH Regional office, the LDHH-OPH District office, the LDHH-OPH Central office, and the LDHH-OPH-DWRLF office must be provided with the analytical results of all required chemical sampling constituents from each finished well. Collected samples must be analyzed by an LDHH-OPH Certified Laboratory. Results submitted to LDHH-OPH-DWRLF should be sent to the following address:

ATTN: Drinking Water Revolving Loan Fund (DWRLF)
P. O. Box 4489
Baton Rouge, LA 70821